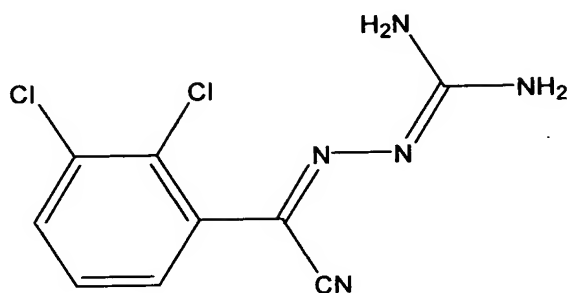


C L A I M S

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1. A process for preparing the intermediate 2-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-2-(aminoguanidine)acetonitrile, of formula (II):



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(II)

which comprises the reaction of 2,3-dichlorobenzoyl cyanide with aminoguanidine bicarbonate, **characterised** in 15 that it is carried out in non-aqueous medium in the presence of methanesulphonic acid as the only reaction medium.

2. Process according to Claim 1, characterised in 20 that said reaction is carried out within a temperature range of 20 to 80°C.

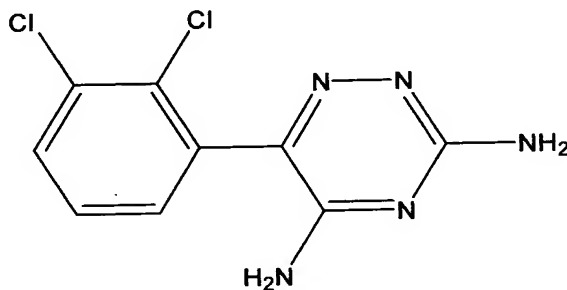
3. Process according to Claim 2, characterised in that said reaction is carried out within a temperature 25 range of 30 to 60°C.

4. Process according to Claim 1, characterised in that, once the reaction has finished, it comprises an additional step that consists in:

- i) addition of water; and
- 5 ii) adjustment of the pH of the medium until a pH higher than the pKa of the hydrogen cyanide is achieved.

5. Process according to Claim 4, characterised in 10 that in ii), said adjustment of the pH is carried out by adding a sodium hydroxide solution.

6. Process for preparing the 3,5-diamino-6-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine, of formula (I):



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(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises the following steps:

- 20 a) preparation of the intermediate 2-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-2-(aminoguanidine)acetonitrile, of formula (II), according to any of claims 1 to 5;

- b) cyclisation of said intermediate of formula (II) in an aliphatic alcohol or in an aliphatic 25 alcohol/water solution under reflux; and,

if desired, obtaining a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. Process according to Claim 6, characterised in that said aliphatic alcohol used in step b) may be chosen from between ethanol and isopropanol.